Delimitation of constituencies

*79. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delimitation Commission has completed the work of delimitation of Assembly and Parliamentary Constituencies;

(b) if not, the States in which the process has been completed and the States in which the process is incomplete:

(c) whether notification(s) with respect to any State(s) have been laid on the Table of the House; and

(d) by when the notifications are likely to come into force?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) The Delimitation Commission has so far issued Orders in respect of 25 States/Union Territories. In pursuance of section 10A of the Delimitation Act, 2002, the delimitation exercise in respect of the States of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Nagaland have been deferred *vide* four Orders dated 8th February, 2008. Further, section 10B of the said Act nullified the Delimitation Commission's Orders issued with respect to the State of Jharkhand. Thus, the delimitation exercise in respect of all the States except the State of Jammu and Kashmir has been completed.

(c) The Order issued by the Delimitation Commission in respect of 25 States/Union Territories has been laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 23.11.2007 and 28.11.2007 respectively.

(d) In pursuance of the second proviso to article 82 and the second proviso to clause (3) of article 170 of the Constitution, the Presidential Order has been issued on the 19th February, 2008 making delimitation Orders effective from immediate effect in all the 22 States/Union Territories except in the States of Tripura and Meghalaya where the delimitation order shall take effect on the 20th March, 2008 after the election to the Legislative Assemblies in these States are over on 19.3.2008.

Private participation in power and energy sectors

*80. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to report by KPMG and CII, a conducive policy and regulatory framework is necessary to attract private participation in the country's power and upstream energy sectors which would require an investment of upto $ 150 billion over the next five years;ssss

(b) if so, whether Government has considered the report;

(c) if so, the main points mentioned in the report; and

(d) the steps being taken to improve the renewable energy in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) No such study has been commissioned by the Ministry of Power, the Planning Commission, the Ministry of Coal, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, or the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of above.

(d) Development of new and renewable energy is supported by fiscal and financial incentives depending upon technological application, area of installation and category of beneficiaries. In addition, for developing these technologies project based research and development support is provided to the research and development institutions, universities etc.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Development of Food Processing Industries

312. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country still lags behind many countries in food processing and food packaging industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government for the development of food processing industries in the country particularly the processing of Indian food varieties on modern lines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) India's food processing sector has a huge potential for development. However, its present level of processing is extremely low. For example, the level of processing is 2.2% for fruits and vegetables, 26% for marine, 6% for poultry and 20% for buffalo meat, as against 60-70% in developed countries. India's export of processed food in global trade is only 1.5%.

In order to address the low level of processing and to promote food processing industries to exploit both the domestic and international market potential for processed food products, a Vision Document 2015 on Food Processing Industries for the country as a whole has been finalized by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI), which envisages trebling the size of the processed food sector by increasing the level of processing of perishables from 6% to 20%, value addition from 20% to 35% and share in global food trade from 1.5% to 3% by 2015. An integrated strategy for promotion of agribusiness-Vision, Strategy and Action Plan for the Food Processing Sector has also been approved by the Government.

The thrust areas identified for strategic intervention include establishment of Mega Food Parks in identified clusters with appropriate backward and forward linkages, creation of integrated cold chains/value addition and preservation infrastructure, modernization of abattoirs, upgradation of hygiene and quality of street food and food streets, establishment and upgradation of quality control laboratories, restructuring and strengthening of MFPI, rationalizing tax structure, incentivising FDI and private investment in infrastructure,